# Goalball UK Competition Committee – Minutes

Wednesday 5th January 2022, 6.30pm (Conference Call)

## Welcome & Apologies

In attendance: Alex Bunney (AB), Tom Dobson (TD), Dina Murdie (DM), Dyfrig Lewis-Smith (DLS), Dani Dillon (DD), Paul Holloway (PH), Sarah Leiter (SL), Kate Coghlan (KC), and Sammie Korosi (SK).

DM opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

## Return to Play Update

2.1 Covid-19 Competition Measures Review and Feedback

The committee supported Goalball UK’s plans to continue to deliver the sport while it can for the benefit of the players. [Update from Goalball UK, CEO](https://goalballuk.com/goalball-uk-ceo-update/) provided 6.6.21.

The committee agreed the current Covid-19 competition measures should remain in place with reminders issued to teams and officials before each competition.

## Issues Requiring Discussion and Action

3.1 Intermediate North League – Matchday 2 - un-played fixtures

The committee discussed the potential options for the fixtures that were un-played due to two teams being unable to attend due to snow. TD will consult with the relevant teams regarding the options, then communicate the final decision to all relevant teams in due course.

3.2 Elite Super League - Matchday 1 - un-played fixtures

The committee discussed the circumstances surrounding the un-played fixtures and the options available regarding the outcome of the fixtures. AB to communicate the decision to the relevant teams in due course.

3.3 Intermediate North League - Matchday 2 - Inappropriate player levels

TD informed the committee of two players who competed under an inappropriate player rating. TD set out the plans to work with the club and the coach to ensure it doesn’t happen again.

3.4 Player Safety

The committee discussed the issue of player safety and the outcome of officials stopping the game to avoid accidents and reduce the number medical incidents at Goalball UK competitions. AB to draft a proposal for the committee to input into before publishing advice and guidance to teams and officials.

3.5 UK Anti-Doping Rule Change

AB presented a proposed Goalball UK rule change in relation to Anti-Doping. The rule change would ensure as a National Governing Body Goalball UK are compliant with the new UK Anti-Doping governance code. The committee approved the proposed change. AB make the change to the rules and circulate to teams by April 2022.

3.6 Eyepatches and Patching

The committee discussed its approach to patching exemptions (following a request) in Goalball UK competitions. It was agreed the committee needs a formal process to manage exemption requests. AB and TD to draft a proposal for the committee to input into before publishing the formal process.

## Competition Round Up

4.1 Entries and Player Numbers

As of 12th December 2021:

* Novice – 63 players from three regions
* Intermediate – 70 players from two regions
* Elite – 33 players from one national region

18 teams have entered for the latest round of Novice tournaments 15th January 2022.

## Competition Plans 2021/22

5.1 Intermediate North League – Matchday 3 - Venue

TD informed the committee due to a venue issue out of Goalball UK’s control Matchday 3 will start later than usual on the Saturday and will be played across three halls. TD acknowledged this will put pressure on the workforce but with the short notice and busy calendar Goalball UK don’t feel it is an option to change the date.

5.2 Goalfix Cup 2022 & UK Sport Funding

AB confirmed Goalball UK has received funding from UK Sport to improve the presentation of the Goalfix Cup and National Finals for the next three seasons, starting with the Goalfix Cup in 2022.

5.3 New IBSA Goalball Rules 2022-24

DM highlighted the changes to the rules are mainly in wordings rather than changes that impact how the game is played or refereed. Guidance regarding the new rules will be issued to teams and officials before 15th January Novice competition.

## Updates

6.1 Event Staff

AB confirmed role descriptions and approach by Goalball UK is still under review.

6.2 Referee Course - February 2022

AB confirmed there are 5 people signed up to the course. AB also confirmed the new course materials are progressing well. AB thanked DM and DD for their input to date.

6.3 Transgender Inclusion Policy Review

DLS confirmed the internal review is underway in line with the Home Sports Councils guidance. AB thanked KC for creating the [Goalball UK website article](https://goalballuk.com/goalball-uk-to-review-guidance-and-policy-for-transgender-inclusion/) informing the Goalball UK community of our plans.

## Date of next meeting

16th March 2022 via Zoom.

## AOB

None.

Document Ends.